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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 27, 2018

**COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY**

RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT  
AND MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON BORDER AND MARITIME SECURITY

**COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

The Honorable Michael McCaul  
Chairman  
Committee on Homeland Security  
2001 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman McCaul:

President Trump's "zero-tolerance" immigration policy has led to the separation of at least 2,300 children from their parents. This week, U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw ruled that children under the age of five must be reunited within 14 days and children who are older must be reunited with their parents within 30 days.

It has been reported the administration does not have a clear plan to reunite families. "Trump administration officials say they have no clear plan yet on how to reunite the thousands of children separated from their families at the border since the implementation of a zero-tolerance policy in which anyone caught entering the U.S. illegally is criminally prosecuted. 'This policy is relatively new,' said Steven Wagner, the Acting Assistant Secretary at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). 'We're still working through the experience of reunifying kids with their parents after adjudication.'" <sup>1</sup>

Additionally, the quality of record keeping appears to be poor or nonexistent. "The biggest problem, as far as I can tell, is where the kids' records don't have information on the parents, said one Homeland Security Department official. I don't know how they're going to go about fixing that." <sup>2</sup> Additionally, many in custody are babies and toddlers and are too young to give information about their parents, and in some cases, children speak indigenous languages. <sup>3</sup> These reports are alarming and DHS needs to provide a plan to ensure the safe return of children to their parents.

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<sup>1</sup> The Associated Press, "No Clear Plan Yet on How to Reunite Parents with Children," The New York Times, Jun 20, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2018/06/20/us/ap-us-immigration-separating-families.html>

<sup>2</sup> Ted Hesson, "Family Separations will Persist under Trump's Order," POLITICO, Jun 20, 2018, <https://www.politico.com/story/2018/06/20/family-separations-trump-executive-order-641356>

<sup>3</sup> Nick Miroff, Dan Lamothe, and Seung Min Kim, "Reversal on Migrant Families Deepens Confusion Over Trump's Immigration Order" Jun 21, 2018, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the\\_americas/the-chaotic-effort-to-reunite-immigrant-parents-with-their-separated-kids/2018/06/21/325cceb2-7563-11e8-bda1-18e53a448a14\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.fabf4e0a4130](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/the-chaotic-effort-to-reunite-immigrant-parents-with-their-separated-kids/2018/06/21/325cceb2-7563-11e8-bda1-18e53a448a14_story.html?utm_term=.fabf4e0a4130)

Last week, 124 Members of Congress called on DHS and HHS Inspectors General for an investigation on reuniting the children and recordkeeping. Given this time sensitive issue, we need answers immediately.

Regardless of any differences that we hold on immigration policy, we all care about the wellbeing of children. Therefore, we must all work together in a bipartisan manner to ensure that every child can be reunited with their parent. I urge you to hold a hearing on this issue to ensure DHS has the necessary information and plan in place to reunite families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Luis Correa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

J. LUIS CORREA  
Member of Congress